



JPW

**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q79353

Noboru YAMAJI, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/763,210

Group Art Unit: 1652

Confirmation No.: 6561

Examiner: Yong D. PAK

Filed: January 26, 2004

For: NOVEL METALLOPROTEASE HAVING AGGRECANASE ACTIVITY

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This responds to the Office Action, dated June 23, 2006. In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicant elects Group I, Claim 12 for examination. This election is made without traverse.

Upon indication of allowable subject matter, Applicant requests rejoinder of Group II, Claim 13.

Applicant reserves the right to file a Divisional Application directed to non-elected claims Groups II - VI.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

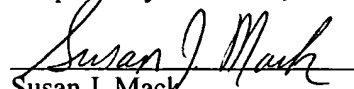
WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: July 21, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

  
Susan J. Mack  
Registration No. 30,951